

# Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington March 17, 2025

The regular meeting of the Commission, of Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington, was held in the office of the District, 203 Olds Station Road, Wenatchee, Washington, on March 17, 2025, at the hour of 10:00 am, pursuant to proper notice.

**Commissioners present:** Kelly Allen, Secretary  
Garry Arseneault (remote)  
Randy Smith  
Carnan Bergren

**Staff present:** Kirk Hudson, General Manager  
Charles von Reis, Acting General Counsel  
Rebekah Neumann, Clerk of the Board  
Various staff

**Others present:** Steve Keene

## **Call to Order**

- Secretary Allen called the meeting to order at 9:59am

## **Pledge of Allegiance and Safety/H&OP Minute**

- Jacob Huylar, Project Support Manager, led the pledge and provided information on sun safety

## **Agenda**

- The agenda was approved as presented

## **Cycle of Personal Ownership (CPO) Winner Recognition**

- Kirk Hudson, General Manager, recognized the January-February, 2025 winner, Abby Phipps, Customer Utilities Process Admin

## **Quarterly Electric Load Growth Update**

- Lyle Moore, Customer Service Engineering Supervisor, and David Lodge, Project Management Manager provided a Q1 update
- Large loads are excluded from the growth data
- Discussed sustainable cadence of construction with a goal of working on concurrent substation projects
- Increase in residential and commercial connections
- Development and multi-dwelling unit construction continuing
- Inquiries suggest a future increase in developments and multi-dwelling units
- Load requests continue to be diverse
- Planned utility infrastructure investments are positioned to meet demands of high-growth areas

### **Legislative Update**

- Kelli Scott, Government/External Affairs Program Manager, provided an update on the legislative session
- Provided a session overview and reviewed our policy watchlist and other bills of interest
- Reviewed bills that did not progress and are considered dead

### **Clean Energy Update**

- Brett Bickford, Managing Director Generation & Transmission, provided an update on clean energy sources the District is exploring
- The District will continue to evaluate:
  - Geothermal potential in Chelan County and the Mid-Columbia
  - Helion fusion generator in Malaga
  - Battery storage use cases
  - Monitor technology viability and cost of gravity storage (water and dry weights)
- Staff and Commissioners were impressed with the audience turnout at the Helion community meeting last week

### **Hydrant Valve Rate Adjustment Proposal**

- Ron Slabaugh, Water/Wastewater Manager, reviewed a proposal to update hydrant valve rates and charges
- The new rate is expected to lower the average cost of hydrant valve use
- Reviewed outreach plan and next steps

#### **MOTION**

Moved by: Commissioner Smith

Seconded by: Commissioner Arseneault

To approve the proposed public engagement plan and to set a public rate hearing on April 7, 2025 at 11:00am at the PUD Service Center

Approved: Unanimously

### **District-Owned Charger Rate Proposal**

- Felicity Saberhagen, Business Manager, reviewed a proposed resolution to set the rate for District-owned electric vehicle chargers
- Chargers were installed at the Service Center to meet City of Wenatchee requirements
- Proposal for ChargePoint to administer and manage payment collection and usage data for charging sessions
- Proposed charging station use rate recovers energy, administrative and billing costs

### **Consent Agenda**

Secretary Allen presented the consent agenda, which included the following items:

- Minutes of the March 3, 2025 Regular Meeting and March 11, 2025 Special Meeting
- Vouchers: Accounts Payable Summary Report dated March 11, 2025:
  - Vouchers totaling \$11,465,374.46;
  - Approval of Customer Deposit Returns and Conservation Incentive payments for the period February 25, 2025 through March 10, 2025 in the amount of \$53,497.03.
  - Approval of the net Payroll, Warrant Nos. 238718 through 238723 and Advice Nos. 795035 through 795881 for the pay period ending February 23, 2025 in the amount of \$2,750,198.27.
  - Approval of Warrant Nos. 32877 through 32918 totaling \$21,635.87 for claim payments from the workers' compensation self-insurance fund for the period ending March 10, 2025.
  - Approval of Parks Reservation System customer refunds for the period February 25, 2025 through March 10, 2025 in the amount of \$1,155.00.

## **MOTION**

Moved by: Commissioner Smith

Seconded by: Commissioner Arseneault

To approve the consent agenda as presented

Approved: Unanimously

## **Manager Items**

- Alene Underwood, Natural Resources Director, provided an update on an issue at the Dryden canal
  - Dryden canal intake culvert has been impacted by a sinkhole
  - One of the 3 pipes that deliver water to the canal has failed; other two are of similar vintage and show signs of deterioration
  - Will slip-line two remaining pipes with 6ft diameter pipes, which is sufficient for canal flow
  - Materials are ordered and work is expected to be completed by April 7
  - There is no impact at this time; irrigation district is scheduled to deliver water beginning April 7

## **Commission Items**

- Special meetings

## **MOTION**

Moved by: Commissioner Smith

Seconded by: Commissioner Arseneault

To set the following special meetings:

- On Tuesday, April 8, 2025 @ 5:30pm at Bob's Burgers & Brews, 795 Grant Road, East Wenatchee, for the purpose of a Mid-C General Managers and Commissioners meeting
- On Friday, April 18 @ 10:00am at the Confluence Technology Center, 285 Technology Center Way, Wenatchee, for the purpose of holding a Board Workshop
- On Monday, April 28 @ 9:00am at the Confluence Technology Center, 285 Technology Center Way, Wenatchee, for the purpose of holding a Strategy Partners Meeting
- On Tuesday, May 13, 2025 @ 1:00pm at the Confluence Technology Center, 285 Technology Center Way, Wenatchee, for the purpose of holding a Tri-Commission meeting

Approved: Unanimously

- Commissioner Allen thanked the District for providing active shooter training; it was great to see other community agencies there as well

## **Follow up on Delegation of Action Items from 3/3/25 Board Meeting**

- Erik Wahlquist will provide history information on the Stehekin power plant and whether it pre-dates the National Park
- Ron Slabaugh will prepare a response to the Chelan Ridge water concerns

## **Delegation of Action Items**

- John Stoll will determine when the Bavarian Substation was identified as a project

## **Recessed at 11:50am; Reconvene at 1:00pm**

## **Executive Session**

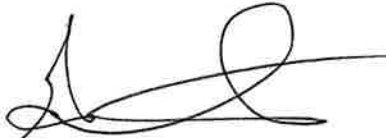
Secretary Allen convened an executive session at approximately 1:00pm to discuss with legal counsel agency enforcement actions, litigation, potential litigation to which the District or its board is, or is likely to become, a party, and/or legal risks, as authorized by RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and to consider information regarding the infrastructure and security of computer and telecommunications networks, security and service recovery plans,

security risk assessments and security test results to the extent that they identify specific system vulnerabilities pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(a)(ii) for approximately 90 minutes.

**Regular Session Reconvened at 2:10pm**

Secretary Allen confirmed no votes were taken and no decisions were made during Executive Session

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10pm



Vice President



Commissioner



President



Secretary



Commissioner